

354. Archery Equipment and Crossbow Regulations.

(a) Bow, as used in these regulations, means any device consisting of a flexible material having a string connecting its two ends and used to propel an arrow held in a firing position by hand only. Bow, includes long bow, recurve or compound bow.

(b) Crossbow, as used in these regulations means any device consisting of a bow or cured latex band or other flexible material (commonly referred to as a linear bow) affixed to a stock, or any bow that utilizes any device attached directly or indirectly to the bow for the purpose of keeping a crossbow bolt, an arrow or the string in a firing position. Except as provided in subsection 354(j), a crossbow is not archery equipment and cannot be used during the archery deer season.

(c) For the taking of big game, hunting arrows and crossbow bolts with a broad head type blade which will not pass through a hole seven-eighths inch in diameter shall be used.

Mechanical/retractable broad heads shall be measured in the open position. For the taking of migratory game birds, resident small game, furbearers and nongame mammals and birds any arrow or crossbow bolt may be used except as prohibited by subsection (d) below.

(d) No arrows or crossbow bolt with an explosive head or with any substance which would tranquilize or poison any animal may be used. No arrows or crossbow bolt without flu-flu fletching may be used for the take of pheasants and migratory game birds, except for provisions of section 507(a)(2).

(e) No arrow or crossbow bolt may be released from a bow or crossbow upon or across any highway, road or other way open to vehicular traffic.

(f) No bow or crossbow may be used which will not cast a legal hunting arrow, except flu-flu arrows, a horizontal distance of 130 yards.

(g) Except as described in subsection 354(j), crossbows may not be used to take game birds and game mammals during archery seasons.

(h) Except as provided in subsection 353(g), archers may not possess a firearm while hunting in the field during any archery season, or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag.

(i) No person may nock or fit the notch in the end of an arrow to a bowstring or crossbow string in a ready-to-fire position while in or on any vehicle.

(j) Upon application to the department, Any the department may issue a Disabled Archer Permit, free of any charge or fee, to any person with a physical disability, as defined in 354 (k), which prevents him/her from being able to draw and hold a bow in a firing position. The Disabled Archer Permit authorizes the disabled archer may to use a crossbow or device which holds a string and arrow in the firing position, to assist in the taking of birds and mammals under the conditions of an archery tag, or during archery season, or general season. Under these conditions, archers must provide to the Department and retain in his/her immediate possession while taking or attempting to take big game written verification of the disability, including: the person's name and signature, address, date of birth, driver's license or DMV number; physician's name and signature, physician's license number and address; and a description of the disability
(1) Applications for a Disabled Archer Permit, 2005/2006 Disabled Archer Permit Application, (Form FG 537 (New 1/05)) shall be submitted to the department at the address specified on the application and shall include:

(A) Applicant's name

(B) Applicant's physical address

(C) Applicant's date of birth

(D) Applicant's Driver's License or DMV Number

(E) Applicant's valid hunting license number

(F) Applicant's telephone number

(G) Applicant's signature

(H) Medical Physician's name

(I) Medical Physician's business address

(J) Medical Physician's business telephone number

(K) Medical Physician's State medical license number

(L) A description of the disabled archer's disability

(M) Medical Physician's signature

(N) Signature of the authorizing department employee and date issued

(2) The valid Disabled Archer Permit shall be in the archer's immediate possession while hunting and shall be shown on demand to any person authorized to enforce this regulation.

(3) The Disabled Archer Permit is valid from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

(k) For the purposes of this section a physical disability means, a person having a permanent loss, significant limitation, or diagnosed disease or disorder, which substantially impairs one or both upper extremities preventing a hunter to draw and hold a bow in a firing position.